

Stated Meeting, December 19, 1879.

Present, 10 members.

Vice-President, Mr. FRALEY, in the Chair.

A letter of acknowledgment and envoy was received from the Linnæan Society, London, Oct. 20 (99, 100, 101; XV, 2).

Letters of envoy were received from the Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences, Feb. 23, 1877, and April 15, 1878; from the Royal Observatory, Brussels, April, 1879; from the Bunker Hill Monument Association, Boston; and from the Society of Geography and Statistics, Mexico, Nov. 17, 1879.

A letter requesting cabinet exchanges was received from the Bridgeport Scientific Society, Conn., Nov. 20, 1879.

Donations for the Library were received from the Asiatic Society of Japan; Royal Society, Victoria; Batavian Society, Batavia; M. Joachim Barrande, Prag; the Academies at Berlin, Munich, Brussels, and Philadelphia; the German Geological Society; Zoologische Anzeiger, Leipsig; Societies at Bonn, St. Gall, Cherbourg, Cambridge (England); the Commercial Geographical Society at Bordeaux; Geographical and Statistical Society, Mexico; Geographical Society, Paris; Geological, Geographical, Zoological, Linnæan, and Antiquarian Societies, Victoria Institute and Nature, in London; Dumfriesshire and Galloway A. N. II. Society; Bunker Hill Monument Association and Natural History Society, Boston; Silliman's Journal; Brooklyn Entomological Society; Journal of Pharmacy, Medical News, and Mr. Henry Phillips, Jr., Philadelphia; Peabody Institute, Baltimore; Smithsonian Institution; Milwaukee Public Library; and National Museum, Mexico.

A bronze medal for the cabinet was received from the

Batavian Society, with the inscription:—SOCIETAS . ART . SCIENT . BAT . IN . MEMORIAM . I . SAEC . FEL . CLAUSI . in a wreath, and around the margin A.P. VIII . X . MAI . MDCCLXXVIII—MDCCLXXLVIII . ——— On the reverse, a palm, labeled on its trunk ‡; mountains in the background; marginal legend: TEN NUTTE VAN'T GEMEEN BATAVIA'S GENOOTSCHAP.

Mr. Chase communicated a note on the Sun's apparent diameter and the nebular origin of the terrestrial day.

Dr. Horn communicated two papers: 1. "A monographic revision of the species of *Cremastochilus* of the United States;" 2. "A Synopsis of the *Euphoridæ* of the United States." With one plate.

Mr. Hale gave an interesting verbal account of his acquaintance with the various Indian tribes collected on the Canadian reservation at Brantford, east of London, Upper Canada; of the most distinguished surviving chief of the Six Nations, Sakayenkwaraton (disappearing mist), known to the English as John S. (smoke) Johnson, now 87 years old. His son, Chief George Johnson, bears the official title of the one of the original 50 council chiefs whom he represents.

Mr. Hale described the formation of the confederation, three centuries ago, and testified to the accuracy of Mr. Morgan's history of it.

He then described the *Book of Rites*, which after two centuries of verbal tradition was reduced to writing by some one connected with the early missions. Two copies exist, and Mr. Hale is obtaining a translation of it. It is the only known American aboriginal piece of literature, north of Mexico. It has many archaic words, and is engrossed, in an old-fashioned current English hand, in a common school-boy's copy book.

He then described the Wampum belts of the confederation, partly preserved by the Onondagas in New York, and partly among the Indians in Canada.

He also told of his discovery that the Tutelos were not an Iroquois tribe, but were allied to the Dakotahs or Sioux of

the West. Their first seat was in North Carolina. Brainard reported that Tutelos, Iroquois and Delawares lived together at Shamokin, Pa., speaking three entirely different languages. The syntactical position of the personal pronoun before, after, or between any two syllables of the verb allies the Tutelo language with the two dialects of the Dahcotah, and separates it from all the other Indian dialects. But Tutelo seems to be older than the Dahcotah. So also Huron (Quebec) was older than Iroquois (Six Nations); and Delaware older than Chippeway. It looks as if the movement was from east to west, and not from west to east.

Repeated questions from the members present elicited many curious and interesting personal details from Mr. Hale, who hopes to have before long a memoir ready for publication.

Pending nominations 885 to 892, were read.

The Minutes of a special meeting of the Board of Officers and Members in Council were read, and the claim for the Magellanic premium was referred to the Committee appointed at the last meeting of the Society.

The Report of the Trustees of the Building Fund was read, dated December 16, 1879, by which it appeared that the receipts since January 30, 1877, had amounted to \$2882.04; and that the Fund now consists of assets to the value of \$12,586.50. Signed, Benj. V. Marsh, Treasurer; Eli K. Price, F. Fraley, auditors of the Finance Committee.

The Report of the Finance Committee was read, and the appropriations for the expenses of the ensuing year, recommended in the report, were on motion, ordered.

And the meeting was adjourned.